

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 DHA-02 ORM-02 IO-13 /073 W

-----271952Z 016045 /70

R 271340Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY MASERU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6973

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MASERU 0566

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PDEV, PINS, (TRANSKEI), LT

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION WITH TRANSKEI POLITICAL REFUGEE MAFIKA

LUDIDI

1. IN RESPONSE TO REQUEST FROM DURBAN, EMBASSY CONTACTED AND HAD FOLLOWING DISCUSSION WITH TRANSKEI POLITICAL REFUGEE, MAFIKA LUDIDI, FORMER PARLIAMENTARY WHIP IN CHIEF MANTANZIMA'S INDEPENDENCE PARTY.

2. MR. MUDIDI COMMENCED BY EXPLAINING HIS BACKGROUND. HE SAID HE HAD BEEN LIVING IN CAPE TOWN WHEN HE WAS CALLED BY HIS PEOPLE (IN THE AREA AROUND MATATEILE) TO REPRESENT THEM IN THE TRANSKEI PARLIAMENT. HE ORIGINALLY FELT THAT MANTANZIMA WOULD UTILIZE TRANSKEI'S INDEPENDENCE TO ACHIEVE THE TRUE INDEPENDENCE OF SOUTH AFRICA BY USING TRANSKEI AS A PLATFORM TO PRESSURE PRETORIA TO CHANGE ITS APARTHEID POLICIES. LUDIDI, HOWEVER, SAID HE QUICKLY BECAME DISILLUSIONED ANF BROKE WITH THE TIP WITH THE INTENTION OF CREATING AN OPPOSITION PARTY. TRANSKEI UNDER MANTANZIMA'S RULE, RATTER THAN PRESSURING PRETORIA, HAS BECOME A PAWN OF SAG, MUCH TO LUDIDI'S CHAGRIN. THE ANC AND PAC WERE  
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NOT ALLOWED TO OPERATE IN TRANSKEI AND THE INDIGENOUS OPPOSITION WAS BEING SLOWLY STRANGLED. ALL POWER IS NOW EFFECTIVELY CONCENTRATED IN MANTANZIMA'S HANDS. HE PREDICTED THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY WILL SOON BE LITTLE MORE THAN A "RUBBER STAMP". HIS FEAR OF MANTANZIMA'S WRATH AFTER HE BROKE FROM THE INDEPENDENCE PARTY HAD HIM TO FLEE TO LESOTHO. LUDIDI POINTED TO THE RUTHLESS NATURE OF NAMTANZIMA (EVEN MEMBERS OF HIS OWN

FAMILY HAVE BEEN PHYSICALLY BEATEN AND INTIMIDATED AND

THOUGHT HE WOULD SOON CRUSH ALL VESTIGES OF DEMOCRACY.

3. IN RESPONSE TO CHARGE'S QUESTION, LUDIDI ADMITTED THAT THERE HAS BEEN SOME MATERIAL BENEFIT TO INDEPENDENCE. INCREASED INDUSTRIALIZATION AND OUTSIDE INVESTMENT SEEMS TO BE HELPING THE ECONOMY, BUT THIS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MAY BE ONLY A RESULT OF SAG INTERVENTION, IN ITS DESIRE TO MAKE APARTHEID MORE PALATABLE AND WORKABLE.

4. AT PRESENT LUDIDI PLANS TO ATTEND THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF LESOTHO TO COMPLETE HIS EDUCATION. EMBOFF DIRECTED LUDIDI TO LOCAL AFRICAN-AMERICAN INSTITUTE REPRESENTATIVE (WHO IS ALSO A SOUTH AFRICAN POLITICAL REFUGEE) FOR COUNSELING AND ASSISTANCE.

5. COMMENT: LUDIDI SEEMS A BIT CONFUSED AND DEMORALIZED BY HIS NEW REFUGEE STATUS. HIS HOSTILITY AND DISILLUSIONMENT WITH MANTANZIMA SEEMS QUITE GENUINE. EMBOFF WAS STRUCK BY LUDIDI'S SEEMING NAIVETE AND INEXPERIENCE; HOWEVER, HE SEEMS QUITE INTELLIGENT AND RESOURCEFUL. WHETHER OR NOT LUDIDI WILL RETURN, AND IN WHAT GUISE, TO THE SOUTH AFRICAN POLITICAL STAGE, IS DIFFICULT TO ASSESS. HIS YOUTH, INTELLIGENCE AND RESOURCEFULNESS MAY LEAD HIM INTO THE RANKS OF THE ANC, BUT IT IS ALMOST CERTAIN HE WILL NEVER RETURN TO TRANSKEI WHILE MANTANZIMA RULES.

STOKES

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009